

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-13, 19, and 24-26; and cancel claims 4, 14 and 31 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A composition for use in the prevention or treatment of Inflammatory Bowel Disease, comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a substantially starch free soluble fibre derivable derived from fruit of the *Musa* spp.
2. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the soluble fibre is derivable derived from an aqueous solution decantable decanted from homogenised fruit of the *Musa* spp.
3. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the soluble fibre is derived from boiling the fruit.

Claim 4 (canceled).

5. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim 4 claim 1, wherein the starch is removed by enzyme digestion of the starch.
6. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the soluble fibre is derivable derived from the precipitate of an aqueous solution treated with ethanol.
7. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim 6, wherein the aqueous solution is subjected to a precipitation step with 80% ethanol.
8. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the soluble fibre is obtained by:

(1) chopping fresh fruit of the *Musa* spp. and removing any skins and placing in an aqueous solution; or freeze-drying whole fruit (excluding skins), milling it and placing in an aqueous solution; or milling desicated fruit of the *Musa* spp. and placing it in an aqueous solution; or taking flour prepared from fruit and placing in an aqueous solution;

(2) taking the solution from (1) and heating to gelatinise starch and disperse any starch granules;

(3) cooling the heated solution from (2) and hydrolysing with starch digesting enzymes to ensure all/most starch is removed; and, optionally

(4) taking the solution from (3) is precipitated and washed precipitating and washing with 80% ethanol;

(5) centrifuged centrifuging the solution from (4); and

(6) discarding the alcoholic supernatant is then discarded and freeze-drying or spray-drying the residue freeze-dried or spray-dried.

9. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the substantially starch free soluble fibre is obtained by:

(a) freeze-drying and milling skinned whole fruit of the *Musa* spp.;

(b) boiling the milled material to gelatinise any starch and disperse any starch granules;

(c) hydrolysing starch in the material with amylase;

(d) precipitating and washing the material with ethanol and freeze drying or spray drying to produce a residue; and

(e) reconstituting the freeze-dried or spray-dried residue, boiling and centrifuging,

wherein the supernatant from the centrifugation (e) comprises the soluble fibre.

10. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 1 in powder form.

11. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim 9₁ wherein the composition is in powder form, and the powder comprises the dried residue of claim 9(d) or the supernatant of claim 9(e) which is spray-dried or freeze-dried.
12. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim 1₁ further comprising at least one of flavouring, sugars, sweetener, anti-oxidants, minerals or vitamins.
13. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim 1₁, ~~for the prevention or treatment of~~ wherein the Inflammatory Bowel Disease is Crohn's Disease.

Claim 14-18 (canceled).

19. (Currently Amended) A nutritional product for use in the ~~prevention or~~ treatment of Inflammatory Bowel Disease comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a substantially starch free soluble fibre derivable derived from fruit of the *Musa* spp.
20. (Original) A nutritional product according to claim 19 in the form of a beverage or drink.
21. (Original) The nutritional product according to claim 20 comprising between 1g/100ml and 30g/100ml of soluble fibre.
22. (Original) A nutritional product according to claim 19 in the form of a powder or powder mix.
23. (Original) A nutritional product according to claim 19 in the form of a food bar or other solid food stuff.

24. (Currently Amended) A method for treating Inflammatory Bowel Disease in a subject, comprising:
providing a composition comprising a substantially starch free soluble fibre derivable derived from fruit of *Musa* spp.; and
administering a therapeutically effective amount of the composition to the subject,
whereby Inflammatory Bowel Disease is treated.
25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24, wherein the soluble fibre is derivable derived from an aqueous solution decantable decanted from homogenised fruit of the *Musa* spp.
26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24, wherein the soluble fibre is derivable derived from the precipitate of an aqueous solution treated with ethanol.
27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the soluble fibre is derived from a precipitate of an aqueous solution subjected to a precipitation step with 80% ethanol.
28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the composition is in powder form.
29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the composition further comprises at least one flavouring, at least one sugar, at least one sweetener, at least one anti-oxidant, at least one mineral, at least one vitamin, or a combination thereof.
30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the Inflammatory Bowel Disease is Crohn's Disease.

Claim 31 (canceled).

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the composition further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the composition is a liquid, a capsule, or a tablet for oral consumption.